

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

634202

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Bulgaria	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]	25X1A
SUBJECT	Medical First Aid Station, Sofia	DATE DISTR.	28 May 1954	
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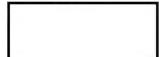
1. The first aid station, located in a small 1-story building at the corner of Benkovski and Rakovska Streets, Sofia, always has two persons on duty in the telephone room. These two, one of whom is generally a physician, work on a 6-hour shift in 24 hours. Physicians on general duty at the station work a 24-hour shift and are then off for three days. The head of the station works an 8-hour shift daily.
2. When an emergency call is received in the telephone room, the physician gives simultaneous instructions over an intercom system to the duty driver, the duty physician and, if necessary, to the duty medical assistant, each of whom is waiting in his respective room.
3. Ambulance drivers are instructed to call the station from the Pirogov Institute after delivering the patient and before returning to the station. If new emergency calls have been received in the meantime, and if there are not enough ambulances at the station, the driver may be directed to proceed immediately to the scene. If the station is short of ambulances, the duty physician may call the duty physician at the hospital and instruct him to dispatch the first driver to arrive at the hospital to the scene of the accident.
4. The duty physician at the station may, in cases of great urgency and lack of ambulances, instruct the militia to stop the first car at the scene and use it as an ambulance. The militia may do this without instructions, if an ambulance does not arrive at the scene within a comparatively short lapse of time.
5. The number of ambulances on duty at the station is increased on holidays.
6. Victims of fatal accidents are not removed by the ambulances. If the accompanying physician is convinced that the victim is dead, the body is left at the spot for the burial society to collect. The militia is charged with the responsibility of notifying the burial society.

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7. The medical report which is prepared for the head of the station is then sent to the hospital which has received the patient or to the Ministry of Health, if the patient has been sent home.
8. The average monthly salary for physicians at the station is 650 leva. During their off-period of three days, station physicians are permitted to practice privately.
9. The following persons at the station are known:
 - a. Doctor Paskalev, head of the station, is about 58 years old. He is a surgeon and is responsible principally for administrative matters.
 - b. Doctor Karalambev, specialist in internal diseases, is about 38 years old.
 - c. Doctor Khantov, a surgeon and gynecologist, is about 50 years old.
 - d. Doctor Nikolov is about 50 years old.
 - e. Radi Nikolov was responsible for ambulances and ambulance drivers. He was about to be relieved at the end of 1953.

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